

## TAKE YOUR CHOICE.

## Republican or People's Party—Which Costs the Most?

In the ADVOCATE of October 25 and December 13, 1893, and of January 3, 1894, were three articles by D. C. Zercher, assistant secretary of state, making a comparison between the present and past state administrations, as to the expenditure and saving of state funds. Mr. Zercher was prompted by the following reasons to make this comparison: The republican press has for the past year been pretending to run a "campaign of education," and while doing so they have steadily maintained that this is the most extravagant administration ever known to the state.

Mr. Zercher supplements his statements with two propositions: First—So far as a comparison of legislative expenses is concerned if it be fair to say that the present administration is Populist when the Populists have the governor, the appointing power and the senate, the confirming power, and the republicans have the house, then it will be fair to make comparison with 1891, as a republican administration when the conditions were exactly reversed, and the republicans had the governor and senate, and the Populists had the house. This is fairer to republicans than Populists because in 1891 Populists were demanding retrenchment and were willing to assist republicans to economize, while in 1893 republicans obstructed Populists both as to economy and legislation. Second—Republicans should have credit for all savings made by virtue of any law introduced by a republican in the session of 1893, and Populists should have credit for those made by virtue of any law introduced by a Populist in the session of 1891.

Upon these propositions, in connection with the actual curtailing of expenses since the People's party took charge, we find, by Mr. Zercher's statement, the People's party credited with saving the enormous sum of \$1,412,636 to the taxpayers of the state, with the prospect of a record of \$1,600,000 in our favor by the end of the term. We give below a summary of the result of his investigation and challenge everybody to disprove the statements set forth as facts:

## REPUBLICAN DEFICIENCY BILLS.

Among the items which should be charged to republican administration are the deficiency appropriation bills of last session, a part of the legacy the People's party inherited from the republicans. In order that the reputation and credit of the state might be preserved, appropriations amounting to \$170,650.30 were passed. They were to pay such items as the Botkin impeachment trial, state bank commissioners and state veterinarian's extra expense, Mrs. Wilson at the New Orleans exposition, interest funds for colleges and normal schools, World's fair, executive council, state house warrants, etc.

## OTHER ITEMS.

For sandwiches, etc., furnished by the Copeland hotel, for Douglass house. \$1,400.30  
Crane & Co. for stationary for Douglass house, ordered without authority. 1,518.10  
E. F. A. Clark for temporary skeleton doors for representative hall. 14.00  
Biddle's bond investigation. 1,000.00  
Investigation of malicious charges made by the republican editor of the Topeka Capital against Lewelling, Close and Little. 1,000.00  
Total. \$4,792.50

Both the above investigations were uncalled for, and were caused in bad faith by the republicans, for which the Populists are not responsible.

## APPROPRIATIONS NOT MADE ON ORDINARY YEARS.

World's fair. \$65,000.00  
For invasion of cholera. 10,000.00  
Krone's appropriations to deaf and dumb institution at Olathe, and which will revert back into the

treasury. \$3,987.06  
College interest funds. 54,053.01  
Total. \$215,022.07

No such appropriation were made by the legislature of 1891, and therefore, could not be charged to the Populist administration in a fair comparison.

## LIBERAL PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

The republicans appropriated only \$144,000 for public improvements for the years 1891 and 1892, while the Populists appropriated \$315,500 for that purpose for 1893 and 1894, which leaves a credit of \$171,500 in favor of the Populists, reckoned on the same basis as the \$63,000 credit to the republicans farther on for 1891 on state house appropriations, there being no appropriation for completion of state house by the legislature of 1893. The reader will observe that while the total legislative expenditures of the republicans was greater than that of the Populists, yet the Populists expended more than twice as much for public improvements. Populists may plead guilty to favoring public improvements, and taking care of our state institutions.

## STATE PRINTING.

The state printing has cost the state as follows:

For the two years under republican rule ending June 30, 1887. \$212,555.01  
For the two years under republican rule ending June 30, 1889. 213,579.02  
For the two years under republican rule ending June 30, 1891. 222,540.86  
For the two years under Populist rule ending June 30, 1893. 182,097.25  
SAVED BY THE POPULIST ADMINISTRATION.

Taking the past year as a basis, the new administration will save to the taxpayers during the term:

On state printing. \$80,447.61  
On state militia. 12,000.00  
Fees of secretary of state. 3,788.80  
Fees of auditor. 948.92  
Bank commissioner. 3,240.48  
Clerk of house. 1,118.00  
Secretary of senate. 471.00  
By railroad assessment. 729,854.42  
Reduction of state tax levy. 71,324.36  
Amount of total appropriations by legislature of 1893 less than legislature of 1891. 15,098.47  
In expenses of secretary of state's office. 1,092.15  
By special bills reducing salaries of county officials, two years. 244,550.00  
Total. \$7,156,984.51

The amount of unexpended balances which reverted back into the treasury from the appropriations for 1891 is \$315,143.56. As the amount of unexpended balances which will revert back into the treasury from the present administration will certainly exceed this amount and on account of which there would be a credit due the Populists of the excess, it will surely be fair to republicans to allow one to balance the other.

## CREDITS GIVEN REPUBLICANS.

Mr. Zercher adds the following:  
For amount appropriated for completion of state house by legislature of 1891 (there being no appropriation for said purpose by the legislature of 1893). \$63,000.00  
For amount charged the Populists for deficiency bills for destitute insane, etc., from session of 1893, and which will not exceed. 70,000.00  
Less items which appear under two headings above. 71,313.33  
Then suppose, in order to be fair beyond question, that we allow the republicans a further credit for any other items which may have been overlooked in this comparison a further sum of. 100,000.00  
Total. \$104,513.31

## SUMMARY.

Total republican deficiency bills. \$170,650.30  
Total other items. 4,792.50  
Total appropriations not made on ordinary years. 215,022.07  
Total over appropriations for public improvements. 171,500  
Items saved by the Populist administration. 1,156,984.81  
Total. \$1,716,940.56  
Less credits given republicans. \$304,513.38  
Balance. \$1,412,636.23

As soon as an adjustment of tax levies can be made to correspond to reduced expenditures there will certainly be a perceptible decrease in taxes.

## LEGISLATIVE COMPARISON.

The following are the total amounts appropriated by the legislature for the annexed years as shown by the state treasurer's books:

1885	\$1,226,665.61
1886	1,436,226.45
Total	\$2,662,892.06
1887	\$1,583,830.83
1888	1,500,912.63
Total	\$3,084,743.46
1889	\$1,697,140.95
1890	1,406,012.99
Total	\$3,103,153.94
1891	\$1,777,386.50
1892	1,329,872.79
Total	\$3,107,259.29
1893	\$1,653,086.35
1894	1,439,099.47
Total	\$3,092,185.82

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Nothing has yet been said of a number of other items not included in the above which space permits merely a mention of here, as follows: The \$80,447.61 saved by the state printer for the two years ending June 30, 1893, and which reduced the republican expenditures for those two years (which we are making comparison with) just that much; retrenchment by Populists on the engrossing and enrolling forces of the legislature; reduction of sheriffs fees by the auditor of state; the reciprocal tax due the state from insurance companies; court fees due the state by clerks of the district courts; the printing and sending out at public expense without warrant of law of former governors' messages in combined form as republican campaign documents printed in foreign languages; extravagance on state house contracts; savings from other state departments; savings from other state institutions; the former board of school funds commissioners discriminating against county school districts by charging them 6 per cent. interest on their bonds while they bought city bonds at 4 and 5 per cent.; the three missing typewriting machines (nearly new) from the office of the state superintendent of public instructions under former administration; extra clerk hire when the work can be done with the present force; reduction of charter fees in the office of the secretary of state to the requirements of the statutes; balances unaccounted for on the auditor's books to the amount of \$46,655.42 on school lands from 1871 to 1884; rebates and knock-downs to purchasers of supplies for our state institutions.

## JERRY'S OLD COAT.

An Object Lesson for the Congressional Kindergarten.

Congressman Jerry Simpson was guilty of an innovation during the tariff talk in the house on Friday. Following Mr. Payne, a republican member from New York, Mr. Simpson turned loose what the press reporters called a broadside against protection and trusts. He said that while he intended to vote for the Wilson bill, there were many provisions in it which he did not approve of. He was not one of those who ever believed the democratic party, brought to the test, would carry out its pledges, for he knew, while there were honest democrats, the action of the democratic party, like that of the republicans, was controlled by the money power. "The People's party," said he, "stands on a platform pledged," as he interpreted it, "to the principle of free trade. What I say here to-day in the discussion of this bill shall be from the standpoint of a free trader."

He believed the cause of evil times could be easily discovered if gentlemen would divest themselves of party prejudice. It had not come suddenly, but had been the result of causes which began far in the past, and would have come long ago had it not been for the wonderful resources of the country and the wisdom and industry of the people. The intolerable burden put upon the farmer

classes through the indirect system of taxation had been one of the potent causes which had produced the present conditions. The farmers of the country in 1830 owned 60 per cent. of the wealth; 53 per cent. in 1860; 40 per cent. in 1880, and 30 per cent. in 1890.

It was at this juncture Mr. Simpson created great applause and amusement by treating the house to the object lesson of his dilapidated overcoat. He proposed to show the house exactly what the poor people of the country did wear. Reaching down under his desk he seized a tattered old overcoat, fringed at the edge and bespangled with patches. He held it on high, while the house and the galleries cheered.

"I bought that of a farmer," said he, "who told me he had left home at 12 o'clock at night and driven twenty-five miles to sell his produce in your boasted home market. There, as Mr. Cleveland said, is an object lesson. [Laughter.] There is a sample of what men wear under the beneficent system of protection," he continued. "It is made of shoddy and rags—see?" Here he ripped it up the back. "Yet," he added, "I can find its duplicate on the backs of a million men in this country."

"Where did he buy it?" asked Mr. Cannon, representative of Illinois.

"He bought it a year ago in this city for \$8, and I bought him another shoddy coat to take its place for \$10.40." [Laughter.]

"Is it American or imported?" asked Mr. Cannon.

"I don't know," replied Mr. Simpson. "I don't care, but it is the product of American protection. No one can deny that. [Laughter and applause.] Mr. Simpson concluded with an appeal to the people to ring out the old and ring in the new order of things. Many members tendered him their personal congratulations when he sat down.

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## THE MARKETS.

CHICAGO, January 15, 1894.

WHEAT—No. 2 cash, 60½¢; No. 2 red, 60½¢; No. 2 hard, 59½¢; No. 3 hard, 57¢.  
CORN—No. 2 cash, 34½¢; No. 2 yellow, 34½¢; No. 3, 32½¢; No. 3 yellow, 33¢.  
OATS—No. 2 cash, 27¢.  
TIMOTHY SEED—Cash contract, \$4.15 per 100 lbs.  
MEAT—PORK—Cash, \$13.87½.  
LARD—Cash, \$8.10.  
RIBS—\$6.72½.

## LIVE STOCK.

KANSAS CITY, January 15, 1894.

CATTLE—Market weak to 10 cents lower. Texas steers, \$2.50@3.50; Texas cows, \$2.00@3.25; shipping steers, \$4.00@4.45; native cows, \$1.25@1.35; butchers' stock, \$1.00@4.10; stockers and feeders, \$2.50@3.00.  
HOGS—Market 5 to 10 cents lower. Bulk, \$5.00@5.10; heavy, packing and mixed, \$4.50@5.20; light Yorkers and pigs, \$5.00@5.20.  
SHEEP—Receipts 1,600. Shipments none. Market slow and lower.

W. B. Tough & Son report the Kansas City horse and mule market as quite encouraging for the past week, both as to supply and demand. They look for a large increased supply from now on and steady improvement in quality, as farmers have about decided to out their stock loose at once.

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